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## Introduction

The present volume contains fourteen articles wherein classical culture and language researchers study the thought on the phenomenon of death in ancient times and its development in literature and Mediterranean culture.

The authors refer to different religions, myths, rituals, or symbols established in a literary and philosophical tradition of diverse cultural and ethnic sources (Egyptian, Greek, Roman, and Jewish-Christian) and show the importance of the theme of fear of death and corpse decay in ancient Mediterranean culture.

In the opening article, the author recollects the figure of Professor Jerzy Kolendo, provoking thought on the human condition wherein our powerlessness in the face of death plays the crucial role.

We thank the authors who were willing to consider the ancient authors' thought on death and our readers who will find it worthy of searching their inspiration.

*Anna Kucz and Patrycja Matusiak*